

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 150450

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ORIGIN SNM-02

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R 121452Z JUL 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 150450

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 150450 ACTION SECSTATE DATED
JULY 11, 1974.

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 150450

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, TU

SUBJECT: OPIUM POPPIES - PRESS GUIDANCE

USUN - FOR WIGGINS

1. THE DEPARTMENT'S CURRENT PRESS GUIDANCE IS QUOTED FOR
YOUR REFERENCE AND MAY BE DRAWN UPON AS APPROPRIATE.

2. BEGIN QUOTE. DATE: JULY 2, 1974. SUBJECT: TURKISH
DECISION TO RESUME POPPY GROWING.

QUESTION: HOW MUCH MONEY DID WE GIVE TO THE TURKS IN CON-
NECTION WITH THEIR DECISION TO STOP POPPY GROWING?

ANSWER: IN JUNE, 1971, WHEN TURKEY AGREED TO STOP POPPY
GROWING, THE UNITED STATES PLEDGED \$35.7 MILLION TO BE
DISBURSED OVER A FOUR-YEAR PERIOD.

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PAGE 02 STATE 150450

15 MILLION OF THAT AMOUNT WAS TO COMPENSATE THE GOVERNMENT

OF TURKEY FOR ITS LOSS OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE EARNINGS FROM EXPORTS OF MEDICINAL OPIUM. 10 MILLION OF THIS HAS BEEN

TRANSFERRED.

20.7 MILLION WAS TO FUND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS OF THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT IN THE FORMER POPPY REGIONS. APPROXIMATELY 6 MILLION HAS BEEN DISBURSED.

THEREFORE, WE HAVE DISBURSED ALREADY A TOTAL OF ABOUT \$16 MILLION OF THE \$35.7 MILLION.

QUESTION: ARE WE SATISFIED WITH WHAT HAS BEEN DONE WITH THE 6 MILLION?

ANSWER: YES.

QUESTION: ARE WE GOING TO DISBURSE ANY OF THE BALANCE? ARE WE GOING TO ASK FOR A RETURN OF ANY OF THE AMOUNT ALREADY DISBURSED?

ANSWER: TO THE FIRST QUESTION, IN LIGHT OF THE DECISION OF THE GOT, THE ANSWER IS NO. I DO NOT HAVE ANY COMMENT AT THIS TIME ON THE SECOND QUESTION.

QUESTION: HAVE WE DISCUSSED THIS WITH THE TURKS SINCE THE DECISION?

ANSWER: YES. AMBASSADOR MACOMBER MET WITH PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT (EDGE-EH-VITE) ON JULY 1.

QUESTION: DID THE TURKS NOTIFY US IN ADVANCE OF THEIR ANNOUNCEMENT?

ANSWER: NO, THEY DID NOT.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

SINCE 1948 - WHEN THE PROGRAM BEGAN - WE HAVE GIVEN THE TURKS ABOUT \$3 BILLION IN MILITARY ASSISTANCE AND ABOUT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 STATE 150450

\$3 BILLION IN ECONOMIC AID. OBVIOUSLY MOST OF THE ;AP MATERIAL HAS BEEN DELIVERED WITH PERHAPS SOME UNDELIVERED ITEMS FROM RECENT FISCAL YEARS. AS FAR AS FISCAL YEAR 1974 IS CONCERNED, VERY LITTLE OF THE \$77.2 MILLION HAS GONE FORWARD SINCE THE BULK OF CONTRACTS WERE SIGNED TOWARD THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR. ;HE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM HAS RUN AT A RELATIVELY MODEST LEVEL IN

RECENT YEARS- MOSTLY IN THE FORM OF PROJECT LOANS; FOR INSTANCE, IN FISCAL 1974 IT WAS SOMETHING BETWEEN \$6 AND \$7 MILLION.

WITH RESPECT TO THE \$76.2 MILLION FOR MAP FOR FISCAL 1974, DEFENSE IS NOW BREAKING OUT EXACTLY WHERE THAT STANDS.

FOR FISCAL 1975 WE HAVE ASKED THE CONGRESS FOR \$23 MILLION FOR ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE - AGAIN MOSTLY LOANS - AND \$90 MILLION FOR GRANT MAP AND \$90 MILLION FOR FMS CREDITS.

3. DATE: JULY 10, 1974. SUBJECT: OPIUM PRODUCTION IN TURKEY.

QUESTION: WHAT IS THE DEPARTMENT'S ATTITUDE TOWARD THE MONDALE AMENDMENT TO SPEND ALL ECONOMIC AND MILITARY AID TO TURKEY UNLESS THE BAN ON OPIUM POPPY PRODUCTION IS RESTORED? IS THE DEPARTMENT URGING KEY MEMBERS OF CONGRESS NOT TO CUT OFF AID? DO WE BELIEVE THAT IT IS POSSIBLE TO WORK OUT SOME SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION WITH THE TURKS, AVOIDING A CONFRONTATION WITH THEM?

ANSWER: WE ARE DEEPLY DISAPPOINTED BY THE TURKISH DECISION, AND HAVE MADE OUR PROFOUND REGRET CLEAR TO THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT.

AS YOU KNOW, WE HAVE RECALLED OUR AMBASSADOR TO UNDERLINE OUR DISMAY, AND TO HAVE HIM JOIN US IN THE MOST URGENT CONSIDERATION OF WHAT IS THE BEST THING TO DO IN THE NATIONAL INTEREST. OUR FIRST OBJECTIVE, OF COURSE, IS TO PREVENT AN INCREASE IN THE AVAILABILITY OF HEROIN IN THE STREETS OF OUR CITIES.

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PAGE 04 STATE 150450

UNTIL WE HAVE COMPLETED OUR STUDY, IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TO TAKE ANY ACTION AND WE WOULD BE OPPOSED TO ANY DEFINITIVE CONGRESSIONAL ACTION AT THIS TIME.
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